

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 THESSA 00531 010641Z

11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-14 ACDA-19 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SAM-01 AID-20

DRC-01 /141 W

----- 128107

O 010030Z SEPT 74

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2058

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS THESSALONIKI 0531

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, GR, TU, CY

SUBJECT: KARAMANLIS RETURNS TO MACEDONIA

1. SUMMARY. RETURN OF PM KARAMANLIS TO NATIVE MACEDONIA ON AUGUST 31 AFTER DECADE'S ABSENCE WAS PERSONAL AND POLITICAL TRIUMPH, PROVIDING APPROPRIATE SETTING AND OPPORTUNITY TO EXPOUND UPON PRESENT SITUATION AND PROGRAM OF HIS GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. PRIME MINISTER CONSTANTINOS KARAMANLIS RETURNED TO NORTHERN GREECE ON AUGUST 31 FOR FIRST TIME SINCE HIS VOLUNTARY EXILE IN FRANCE TO INAUGURATE OPENING OF THESSALONIKI INTERNATIONAL FAIR, AND RECEIVED TUMULTUOUS HERO'S WELCOME. AT 6:00 P.M., CROWD, ESTIMATED RELIABLY AT APPROX 350,000 (PRESS PEOPLE SAY FOUR TO FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND), BUT IN ANY EVENT LARGEST EVER SEEN FOR POLITICAL GATHERING IN THESSALONIKI, WAITED FOR IM'S ADDRESS FROM BALCONY OF MAKEDONIA PALACE HOTEL. THRONG, IN FESTIVE, UP-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 THESSA 00531 010641Z

BEAT MOOD, HALF OF THEM FROM AREAS OUTSIDE CITY, DISPLAYED NUMEROUS BANNERS AND PLACARDS, MOST WITH SLOGANS AND PICTURES SUPPORTING KARAMANLIS, BUT SOME WITH ANTI-NATO, ANTI-US, ANTI-KISSINGER AND ANTI-FOREIGN BASES MESSAGES. VOCAL SENTIMENTS FOLLOWED SUIT, WITH SOME AGAINST NATO AND US, BUT MAJORITY PRO-KARAMANLIS. VERY SMALL GROUP HEARD TO CRY FAR TO LEFT "LAO KRATIA" AND "ENA-ENA- TESSERA"(114) SLOGANS. CROWDS PASSING BEFORE CONGEN EN ROUTE TO AND FROM KARAMANLIS SPEECH WERE QUIET AND ORDERLY, AND NO INCIDENTS OCCURRED AS CONGEN SEDAN FLYING COLORS PROCEEDED TO VARIOUS CEREMONIES OF EVENING. SMALL GROUP OF PROTESTERS (LESS THAN THIRTY) WITH ANTI-US BANNERS APPEARED BEFORE CONGEN AT APPROX 9:30 PM LOCAL AND, AFTER CHANTING "DEATH TO THE YANKEES" FOR SEVERAL MINUTES MOVED PEACEFULLY AWAY. SECURITY PROTECTION FOR PREMISES AND STAFF BY GREEK AUTHORITIES THROUGHOUT DAY AND EVENING WAS EXEMPLARY.

3. KARAMANLIS SPEECH, AFTER INTRODUCTION BY NEW MAYOR DEMETRIOS ZANNAS (THESS 0529, NOTAL) DELAYED BY PROLONGED APPLAUSE AND INTERRUPTED BY ALMOST SENTENCE-BY-SENTENCE OUTBURSTS FROM THRONG, WAS CONSIDERED PAISEWORTHY , BALANCED RALLYING CALL. PM REMINDED HIS AUDIENCE THAT HE HAD RETURNED TO COUNTRY "ON VERGE OF NATIONAL DISASTER". HE WAS HONEST ABOUT PROBLEMS GREECE FACED, BELIEVING "THAT ONLY WHEN PEOPLE KNOW WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT TRUTH MAY THEY BEST SUPPORT THEIR LEADERSHIP". PEOPLE HAD TO FACE "DIFFICULT PRESENT" AND THEY RESPONDED AS ONE WITH GOVERNMENT AND WITH "DISCIPLINED ARMED FORCES WHICH ARE KEEP-ING WATCH OVER DEFENSES OF COUTNRY".

4. "NEVER IN SUCH A BRIEF TIME" SAID PM , HAS THERE BEEN SUCH A RESTRUCTURING OF COUNTRY" AFTER DARK SEVEN YEAR' S PERIOD, WITH MULTITUDE OF EVILS, BUT FOLLOWING PREVIOUSLY ABNORMAL PERIOD TOO". HE WARNED AGAINST THOSE WHO IN "DEMAGOGIC WAY" WOULD IGNORE "MASS AND DIMENSIONS OF PROBLEMS WE INHERITED". CITING RESTORATION OF CIVIC EQUALITY AND INDIVIDUAL FREEDOMS, AND RETURN OF ARMY TO ITS PROPER TASKS AND SUBMISSION TO POLITICAL AUTHORITY, KARAMANLIS SAID GOG SHOULD BE ABLE TO NOW ATTAIN TWO MAIN OBJECTIVES: SECURITY OF COUNTRY, AND TRUE SOCIAL JUSTICE.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 THESSA 00531 010641Z

5. TURNING TO CYPRUS SITUATION, HE SAID THAT "TRAGEDY WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY THOSE WHO UNTIL YESTERDAY HELD POWER UNLAWFULLY", AND WHOSE "FOOLISHNESS" TURKS EXPLOITED. ALTHOUGH FULLY RECOGNIZING "BURDENSOME HERITAGE" WHICH COULD LEAD TO HIS "POLITICAL SUICIDE", KARAMANLIS SAID, HE WAS SUSTAINED

BY HOPE OF "UNANIMOUS SUPPORT OF GREEK PEOPLE AND UNDERSTANDING OF INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION". HE SAID HE WAS JUSTIFIED IN BOTH, IN LATTER CASE "ESPECIALLY TRUE OF AMERICAN PEOPLE" (LOUD, PROLONGED BOOS) THEN, CONTINUING WITH EMPHASIS, "WHO, WITH THEIR ATTITUDE, HAVE CLEARLY DISTINGUISHED THEIR POSITION FROM THE POLICY FOLLOWED BY THEIR GOVERNMENT" (CHEERS AND APPLAUSE).

6. TURKISH INVASION "IMPLEMENTED IN MOST SAVAGE WAY", SAID KARAMANLIS, WAS "SOURCE OF SHAME FOR ALL GOVERNMENTS OF CIVILIZED NATIONS WHICH BORE WITH THEM (TURKS) WHILE THEY COULD HAVE PREVENTED THEM". PAINFUL DISAPPOINTMENT OF NATO'S INCAPABILITY "OF STOPPING BARBARIAN INVASION BY TURKEY -- FORCED US TO WITHDRAW FROM MILITARY ALLIANCE OF NATO" (GREAT APPLAUSE), BUT THIS "DOES NOT IMPLY GREECE SHALL BREAK POLITICAL AND MENTAL TIES WITH EUROPE".

7. ALTHOUGH "TURKISH INVADERS WILL FIND THEMSELVES ULTIMATELY PRISONERS OF THEIR BARBAROUS ENTERPRISE", GOG DOES NOT WAIT PASSIVELY FOR THIS AND HAS MOBILIZED ALL FORCES OF NATION TO BE "FULLY SAFE AGAINST ALL AGGRESSION" WHILE CYPRUS ENGAGING IN STRUGGLE TO "RESTORE JUSTICE". STRUGGLE WILL BE CONTINUED NO MATTER WHAT TIME AND SACRIFICE REQUIRED, AND TURKS ERR IF THEY FEEL THEY CAN MAINTAIN "WITHOUT ENDANGERING THEMSELVES AND WORLD PEACE, WHAT THEY TORE AWAY BY VIOLENCE AND MALICE".

8. GREECE ESTEEMS VALUE OF GREEK-TURKISH FRIENDSHIP WHICH TURKEY HAS "SYSTEMATICALLY UNDERMINED AND FINALLY BLOWN UP", AND STILL WISHES THAT "PREREQUISITES FOR RESTORATION OF GOOD, NEIGHBORLY RELATIONS" MIGHT BE ESTABLISHED. HOWEVER, CRISIS CONTINUES.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 THESSA 00531 010641Z

9. TURNING TO DOMESTIC MATTERS, KARAMANLIS RECALLED HIS PROMISE TO SET "FOUNDATIONS FOR TRUE AND PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRACY. WHILE DICTATORSHIP ABOLISHED, HE SAID, SUCH FOUNDATIONS DEPEND ON ESTABLISHMENT OF "MODERATE CLIMATE" FOR WHICH PRESS IN GREAT PART RESPONSIBLE, AND IT SHOULD "SHOW POLITICAL MATURITY AND PRUDENCE ALREADY SHOWN BY ANONYMOUS PEOPLE". IF THIS CAN BE ACHIEVED, KARAMANLIS STATED, HE BELIEVED HIS GOVERNMENT COULD "ANNOUNCE DATE TO YOU WITHIN A PERIOD BRIEFER THAN EXPECTED ON WHICH YOU WILL BE SUMMONED TO ELECT THOSE YOU WISH TO GOVERN YOU".

10. PM CONCLUDED, ASKING FOR CONFIDENCE FROM YOUTH IN

PARTICULAR, SAYING THAT GOG GIVES PEOPLE "THREEFOLD PROMISE:
DEDICATION TO DEMOCRACY: DEVOTION TO NATIONAL INTERESTS:
TIRELESS TOIL FOR JUSTIFICATION OF PEOPLES' EXPECTATIONS".

11. MAKEDONIA PALACE SPEECH FOLLOWED BY TUMULTUOUS WELCOME
FOR PM AT CITY'S PALAIS DES SPORTS, WHERE HE FORMALLY
INAUGURATED INTERNATIONAL FAIR AND HEARD TRADITIONAL INAUG-
URAL ADDRESS BY COMMERCE MINISTER ATHANASIOS KANELLOPOULOS
SETTING FORTH PRESENT STATE AND FUTURE PLANS AND PROSPECTS
FOR GREEK TRADE AND COMMERCE (SEPTTEL).

12. FULL EVENING ENDED WITH ANTICLIMACTIC BUT GALA
RECEPTION AT MAKEDONIA PALACE.
BRENNAN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MACEDONIA, POLITICAL SITUATION, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974THESSA00531
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D740242-1011
From: THESSALONIKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740983/aaaahlpc.tel
Line Count: 187
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUN 2002 by maustmc>; APPROVED <27 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971118
Subject: KARAMANLIS RETURNS TO MACEDONIA
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, PINT, CY, GR, TU, (KARAMANLIS, CONSTANTINOS)
To: STATE INFO ANKARA
ATHENS
NICOSIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005